

REMARKS

Claims 98-138 are pending in the above-captioned patent application following this amendment. Claims 7-12, 54-56 and 90 were allowed. The Patent Office has withdrawn claims 18-38, 46, 60-89 and 91-97 from consideration. Claims 7-12, 18-38, 46, 54-56, 60-66 and 68-97 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 98-138 have been added by this amendment, all for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the goals of the Patent Office pursuant to 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (September 8, 2000), even though the Applicants believe that the previously pending claims were allowed/allowable. Further, a Request for Continued Examination has been filed concurrently herewith.

Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification, drawings and the previously pending claims. More specifically, support for new claims 98-138 can be found at least in previously pending claims 1-16, 39-51 and 60-85, in Figures 1-5B, and at least in the specification at page 2, line 23 through page 3, line 15, at page 3, lines 20-25, at page 5, lines 23-27, at page 6, lines 27-32, at page 7, lines 24-26, at page 8, lines 3-5, at page 10, line 5 through page 12, line 17, at page 13, lines 9-14, at page 13, line 27 through page 14, line 16, and at page 16, line 25 through page 18, line 11.

No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment. Consideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

New Claims

New claims 98-138 have been added by this amendment. New claims 98-138 are of a slightly different scope than the previously pending claims. However, claims 98-138 are believed to be allowable in view of the cited references.

For example, Mallary directs current to the load beam 30 using a power source 19 in order to heat the legs 34 of the load beam 30. This reduces the downwardly directed gramload force provided by the legs 34 to loadbeam 30, flexure portion 25 and head 10. (Col. 6, lines 9-11). Mallary does not teach using two or more layers having different material properties to adjust the gram load.

In contrast, new claim 98 is directed toward a disk drive that requires "a drive

housing; a storage disk coupled to the drive housing; and a head arm assembly coupled to the drive housing, the head arm assembly including an adjuster and a slider coupled to the adjuster, the adjuster including a first layer and an adjacent second layer, the first layer having a first composition with a first material property, the second layer having a second composition with a second material property that is different than the first material property, the adjuster applying a gram load to the slider that at least partially depends upon the temperature of the layers." Thus, claim 98 is believed to be allowable. Because claims 99-109 depend directly or indirectly from claim 98, they are also believed to be allowable.

New claim 110 is directed toward a disk drive that requires "a drive housing; a storage disk coupled to the drive housing; and a head arm assembly coupled to the drive housing, the head arm assembly including a non-electrically actuated adjuster and a slider coupled to the adjuster, the adjuster adjusting the gram load that is applied to the slider when the temperature of the adjuster changes." Thus, claim 110 is believed to be allowable. Because claims 111-121 depend directly or indirectly from claim 110, they are also believed to be allowable.

New claim 122 is directed toward a method that requires the steps of "providing a head arm assembly including the slider and an adjuster, the adjuster including a first layer and an adjacent second layer, the first layer having a first composition with a first material property, the second layer having a second composition with a second material property that is different than the first material property; and applying a gram load to the slider with the adjuster, the gram load that is applied at least partially depending upon the temperature of the layers." Thus, claim 122 is believed to be allowable. Because claims 123-130 depend directly or indirectly from claim 122, they are also believed to be allowable.

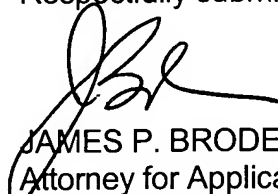
New claim 131 requires the steps of "providing a head arm assembly including the slider and an non-electrically actuated adjuster; and adjusting the gram load that is applied to the slider with the adjuster as the temperature of the adjuster changes." Thus, claim 131 is believed to be allowable. Because claims 132-138 depend directly or indirectly from claim 131, they are also believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Applicants respectfully assert claims 98-138 are allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 858-487-4077 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this the 12th day of April, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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